

A B S T R A C T

A METHOD OF ALTERNATING THE STACKING DIRECTION OF OBJECTS THAT ARE FLAT AND FLEXIBLE, MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE 5 METHOD, AND AN INSTALLATION FOR MAKING UP BATCHES AND FITTED WITH SUCH MEANS

10 The invention relates to a method of alternating the stacking direction (3) of flat objects which are received and disposed parallel to one another by a device (1) so as to enable them to make up batches (2), said device (1) comprising a plurality of compartments. The method is characterized in that in order to make up sets of items suitable for making up batches (2) of items (3) in which 15 at least two items (3) are placed head-to-tail, the following operations are performed while the compartments travel past the loading station (1C):

- an item (3) is extracted from a compartment (1A); and
- 20 • the orientation of the extracted item (3) is modified so that it can be placed head-to-tail relative to its initial insertion direction (S1) in a determined empty compartment; and
- 25 • at a determined reinsertion site, said reoriented item (3) is inserted into an empty compartment.

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35 Translation of the title and the abstract as they were when originally filed by the Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that may have been made subsequently by the PCT Authorities acting ex officio, e.g. under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.